

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims, in which text to be added is underlined and text to be deleted is surrounded by brackets, will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-49. (Canceled)

50. (Previously presented) A device for monitoring plasma, comprising:
at least one layer of polymer directly exposable to said plasma, having incorporated therein
a) an indicator capable of undergoing at least one color change;
b) an activator for said indicator wherein said activator, when contacted with said oxidizing plasma, undergoes a reaction wherein the product of said reaction causes said indicator to undergo said color change; and
c) a zinc compound or a polyaziridine to control the diffusion of plasma gasses.

51-61. (Canceled)

62. (Amended) A method for monitoring the sterilization of an article with plasma as a sterilant, said method comprising:
providing said article;
providing an indicator device comprising an indicator capable of undergoing a color change, [and] an activator for the indicator, and a zinc compound or a polyaziridine to control the diffusion of plasma gasses, wherein the activator reacts with said plasma to produce a reaction product capable of causing the indicator to undergo the color change;
associating the indicator device with said article;
simultaneously exposing said article and the indicator device to said plasma for a predetermined length of time; and
observing the indicator device to determine whether the color change has occurred.

63. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 62, wherein said plasma comprises hydrogen peroxide plasma.

64. (New) The device according to Claim 50, wherein the indicator comprises at least one of a pigment, a dye, and a precursor of a dye.

65. (New) The device according to Claim 50, wherein the indicator

comprises at least one of phenol red, m-cresol purple, and pararosaniline.

66. (New) The device according to Claim 50, wherein the polymer comprises an ink formulation.

67. (New) The device according to Claim 66, wherein the ink formulation comprises an ink extender.

68. (New) The device according to Claim 67, wherein the ink extender comprises about 40% styrene-acrylic polymers.

69. (New) The device according to Claim 66, wherein the ink formulation comprises a flexo ink.

70. (New) The device according to Claim 66, wherein the ink formulation comprises a gravure ink.

71. (New) The device according to Claim 50, further comprising a substrate;
wherein the polymer is disposed on the substrate.

72. (New) The device according to Claim 71, wherein the substrate comprises a plastic film, a natural paper, a synthetic paper, or a metal foil.